Message Text

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EIND, OTRA, KE, UNCTAD

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIALIZATION INSTITUTE (III)

REF: NAIROBI 3522 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: AMBASSADOR AND EMB/AID OFFICERS MET WITH INTER-NATIONAL INDUSTRIALIZATION INSTITUTE (III) TEAM FOR ASSESS-MENT OF SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO KENYA GOVT. POSITION IN III. GENERAL CONCLUSION WAS THAT GOK ALMOST CERTAINLY NOT PARTICI-PANT IN QUOTE NEXT STAGE UNQUOTE MEETING ON III, PARTLY BECAUSE MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) ASSOCIATES ITSELF WITH F-77 FEARS THAT III AND SIMILAR INITIATIVES COULD BE DESIGNED TO DISTRACT FROM COMMON FUND OR OTHER G-77 OBJECTIVES IN NORTH-SOUTH DIALOG. APPEARS PROBABLY THAT EMBASSY CAN DEAL WITH POLITICAL PROBLEM IN LOW-KEY CONTACTS WITH KENYA GOVT., SO THAT KENYA WILL NOT LOBBY AGAINST III. EMB WILL PURSUE GENERAL JOB OF EDUCATION ON BEHALF III, FANNING OUT TO USER MINISTRIES AND SUITABLE ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI. IN AFTERMATH III TEAM VISIT, EMBOFF HAS ALREADY SPOKEN WITH VICE CHANCELLOR OF UNIVERSITY (PRESIDENT IS CHANCELLOR) AND KEY OFFICIAL IN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND MAILED INFORMATION LEFT BY TEAM, ALONG WITH COVERING LETTER, TO MINISTRIES OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, FINANCE AND PLAN-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NING, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, AND UNIVERSITY. END SUMMARY.

2. STATE/AID TEAM VISITED NAIROBI APRIL 8-10 TO MEET WITH AMBASSADOR AND EMBASSY/AID OFFICERS REGARDING U.S. PROPOSAL FOR INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIALIZATION INSTITUTE (III). PRIOR TO VISIT, MESSRS. HANNAH, SMALL, AND VORHIES OF III TEAM UNDERSTOOD THAT KENYA GOVT DID NOT WELCOME BILATERAL APPROACHES

ON III BUT THEY NONETHELESS WISHED TO EXPLAIN PURPOSE AND FUNCTIONS OF III TO U.S. MISSION OFFICERS SO THEY IN TURN COULD HELP IN INFORMAL ORIENTATION OF KENYA GOVT.

- 3. EMBOFFS EXPLAINED TO TEAM THAT KENYA GOVT. SEEMED UNABLE SEPARATE III FROM G-77 SUSPICIONS WHICH AROSE DURING UNCTAD IV -- KENYA HOSTED -- TO EFFECT THAT FISSURES IN G-77 WERE CONSCIOUSLY OR UNCONSCIOUSLY WIDENED BY DELEGATES OF INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES THROUGH BILATERAL APPROACHES. RESULTING FRACTIONS WERE PARTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR FAILURE OF COMMON FUND IN KENYAN EYES. BECAUSE KENYA HOSTED UNCTAD IV, MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS DOUBLY SENSITIVE TO CONSIDERATIONS OF COHESION AND PREFERS THAT INITIATIVES SUCH AS III BE DISCUSSED ON GROUP BASIS IN SUCH FORA AS ECOSOC.
- 4. REGARDING POLITICAL CONNOTATIONS, UPON TEAM'S RECOMMENDATION EMBASSY HAS OFFERED FLAT STATEMENT TO MFA CONTACTS
 THAT III, EVEN THOUGH TREATED IN WHAT KENYA GOVT. CONSIDERED
 POLITICAL FORUM AT UNCTAD IV, IS SOLELY PROFESSIONAL
 INITIATIVE, COMPARABLE IN GENERAL TO INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTES SUCH AS NIGERIA TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND
 PHILIPPINE RICE INSTITUTES. III NOT INTENDED AS DISTRACTION
 FROM OTHER ISSUES IN NORTH-SOUTH DIALOG LIKE COMMON FUND OR
 CODE OF CONDUCT PROPOSED FOR TRANSMATIONAL CORPORATIONS.
 INSTITUTE INTENDED NEITHER TO FURTHER, NOR TO SUBSTITUTE
 FOR, ANY SUCH ENTITY OR ISSUE.
- 5. AS RESULT TEAM'S VISIT, EMBASSY WILL RENEW EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN ON BEHALF III BY CONTINUING LOW-KEY ORIENTATION OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MINISTRIES OF FINANCE AND PLANNING, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, AND UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI (ECONOMICS FACULTY). GREEN PAMPHLETS LEFT BY TEAM HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED WITH BLUE BOOKS ALREADY FURNISHED WHERE FOLLOW-UP WARRANTED. IF QUESTIONS ARISE, EMBASSY PREPARED OFFER MORE DETAILED BRIEFING ON IMPLEMENTATION AND COUNTRIES TO DATE THAT HAVE EVIDENCED INTEREST IN PROCEEDING TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT III.

DECONTROL 3/31/78. MARSHALL

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Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009

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